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JURY FINDS VALLEJO GANG MEMBERS GUILTY OF RACKETEERING CHARGES, INCLUDING MURDER, ATTEMPTED MURDER AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

SACRAMENTO -- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal jury convicted SHANGO JAJA GREER, 33, and JASON KEITH WALKER, 31, both of Vallejo, of various racketeering charges. GREER was found guilty of conducting the affairs of an enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity, and conspiring to conduct the affairs of an enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity. WALKER was found guilty of conspiring to conduct the affairs of an enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the Sacramento and San Francisco Divisions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Vallejo Police Department.

The jury specifically found that GREER was legally responsible for a murder committed in 1994, as well as a murder committed in 2000. The jury further found GREER legally responsible for a 1994 attempted murder, as well as various drug trafficking activities.

The jury found that WALKER was legally responsible for two murders committed in 1994, an attempted murder that same year, as well as drug trafficking activities.

The evidence introduced at trial established that GREER and WALKER were leaders of a street gang in Vallejo called Pitch Dark Family. Witnesses established that Pitch Dark Family was a criminal enterprise whose members and associates engaged in acts of violence, and in drug trafficking. Evidence at trial further established that between 1994 and 2000, the defendants and their associates committed four murders, one attempted murder, and trafficked in rock cocaine.

"We are very pleased in with the jury's verdict. A deadly and violent criminal street gang has literally been taken out of business through this prosecution. I commend the efforts of the Vallejo Police Department and the FBI," stated United States Attorney Scott.

The defendants are scheduled to be sentenced on June 19, 2006, by United States District Judge Frank C. Damrell. Both defendants face a maximum sentence of life in prison.